

sion at large does awake from its self-induced delusions regarding the cruel and disgraceful practice of vivisection, it will turn its back upon the once-vaunted 'scientific research' as completely and with the same scorn as that accorded its other fads of yesterday.

"A comparison of the two quotations is sufficient comment on the methods of misrepresentation employed by the antivivisectionist. It provides another example of the tendency of the 'will to believe' to becloud intellectual integrity."

Symposium on Heart Disease.—The Heart Committee of the San Francisco County Medical Society will hold its fifth annual symposium on heart disease November 21 to 22, 1934. Tentative plans include two full-day sessions and two evening sessions.

The course is without fee, and all doctors who are interested in diseases of the heart are welcome to attend. As soon as final arrangements have been completed, programs will be mailed to the doctors on request. Letters should be addressed to the secretary, J. Marion Read, M. D., 490 Post Street, San Francisco.

Joint Meeting of International Board of Hygiene and League for Medical Freedom.—On September 18 about sixty members of the San Diego County Medical Society attended a joint meeting of the International Board of Hygiene and League for Medical Freedom. Following a buffet luncheon, the members listened to an interesting scientific program by speakers of prominence. Among the out-of-town guests were Dr. G. Kita from Japan and Dr. G. Miro from Mazatlan, Mexico. Several local members expect to attend the next meeting of the I. B. H., which will be held in Mexico City in December.

Meeting of Radiological Society of North America. The Radiological Society of North America will hold its next annual meeting at the Hotel Peabody, Memphis, Tennessee, December 3 to 7, 1934. The medical profession is cordially invited to attend. Further information may be obtained by addressing the secretary-treasurer, Dr. Donald S. Childs, 607 Medical Arts Building, Syracuse, New York. William E. Costolow and Robert R. Newell are counselors for California.

CORRESPONDENCE

Subject of following letter: More information concerning "needy blind" procedures.*

Pasadena, September 17, 1934.

To the Editor:—I have read Dr. Dennis V. Smith's letter in the September issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, relative to your editorial in the August number of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, on misappropriation of tax funds for aid of blind persons amenable to rehabilitation, with considerable interest and approval.

For the past twenty-five years I have been engaged in an eye practice in Pasadena, and have had occasion frequently to observe instances of just such injustice.

Many of the patients who come to me for examination, and to have blanks filled out for blind pensions, are excellent risks for rehabilitation.

I wish to endorse the contention that where no obstacle exists, except a patient's obstinacy, to their recovery of sight by operation, such persons should be refused blind pensions until the result of operation or treatment has proved unavailing. . . .

Very sincerely,

J. ROSS REED.

* See August editorial (page 128) and Doctor Smith's letter in September issue (page 212).

Subject of following letter: Comments by Dr. Edward Jackson of Denver on "needy blind" medical reports.†

To the Editor:—Thank you for calling my attention to the article in the August number of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. Enclosed I will send you a copy of the blank, on which the oculist's report is submitted to the Colorado State Commission for the Blind. There is some value in calling attention of the examiner to the different portions of the eye he is expected to report upon; and asking the direct question as to whether the blindness can be removed by treatment. In Colorado we try to have reports on each case, from a physician known to be competent, to examine and report upon the eyes. But in some counties there is no such person to whom the applicant can be referred. Sometimes they are brought to the Colorado General Hospital for an examination.

As to a definition of blindness, adopted by the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association. This was drawn up by a committee, composed of Dr. Harry Gradle of Chicago, Dr. A. C. Snell of Rochester, New York, and myself. It was submitted to the Section on Ophthalmology, and unanimously adopted by the Section.

California appears to be repeating the experience of Ohio, where the provision for the blind was so liberal that the law was repealed, and altered before it was again passed.

Cordially yours,

EDWARD JACKSON.

NATUROPATHIC AND CHIROPRACTIC INITIATIVES

Arguments Against Chiropractic Initiative (No. 9) and Naturopathic Initiative (No. 17) as printed in State Leaflet 14636, which will be sent to Electors of the State of California

Every registered voter of California has or will receive from the Secretary of State a booklet containing the full text of proposed amendments to the constitution, propositions and proposed laws, with arguments for and against the same, which will appear on the November 6 ballots.

In the preliminary draft which has come to us, the Chiropractic Initiative (No. 9) is printed in full text on page 13 of Part II, the arguments against its passage being printed on pages 15 and 16 of Part I.

The text of the Naturopathic Initiative is printed on page 32 of Part II, the arguments against its passage being printed on pages 15 and 16 of Part I.

It behooves members of the California Medical Association to read the above and then to decide upon their obligations in the premises. In this connection, the attention of readers is called to some editorial comments in this issue (page 269).

For the convenience of members and for purposes of easy reference, the arguments against these unnecessary legislation, which will be found on the November 6 state election ballots, are here reprinted.

Read not only what prominent members of the legal profession say of this proposed legislation, but also what the better class of chiropractors have to state in regard thereto.

Follow up this reading by calling the attention of as many fellow citizens as possible to these measures (Nos. 9 and 17), urging them to coöperate by using their best efforts to defeat these proposed laws which menace public standards and the public weal.

Initiative No. 9—Chiropractic

CHIROPRACTIC. Initiative. Amends Chiropractic Act. Creates State Chiropractors' Association; provides for organization, government, membership, powers and duties thereof; etc., etc. . . .

† On this subject, see August issue, page 128; September issue, page 212; also letter on this page from Dr. Reed.